

NATIONAL TOWING SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NTSAC)

TASK STATEMENT #__-__

I. TASK TITLE

Recommendations for Training and Instruction Best Practices for Crewmembers Working Aboard Subchapter M Inspected Towing Vessels.

II. BACKGROUND

Towing vessels are distinguished by their ability to execute multifaceted marine operations in a variety of unique environments. Correspondingly, the hazards that towing vessels face on a daily basis are just as exceptional and diverse. Hence, working aboard a towing vessel requires a unique set of skills that can only be developed by receiving specialized instruction that is then complemented by operational proficiency that is developed through practical on-the-job applications.

Resultantly, 46 CFR § 140, requires that towing vessels inspected under Subchapter M provide crewmembers and non-crewmembers with baseline training and instruction to include:

- Emergency duties and duty stations (46 CFR § 140.405)
- Safety orientation (46 CFR § 140.410)
- Emergency drills and instruction (46 CFR § 140.420)
- Identification and mitigation of health and safety hazards (46 CFR § 140.510)
- Training Requirements (OSH) (46 CFR § 140.515)
- Navigation safety training (46 CFR § 140.645)

Successful towboat operators are distinguished by crews who not only have years of seasoned knowledge and experience, but are also dedicated to the concept of teamwork and working together to ensure safe and efficient vessel operations.

III. TASK

Please develop a final report that provides detailed best practices and training materials that can be leveraged by towing vessel operators to not only comply with the minimum regulatory requirements mentioned above, but empowers such operators to build proficient crews whose master of craft makes them capable of responding to the most serious of maritime hazards.

Particular attention should be given to unique approaches to training and team building that focuses on not just technical acumen but human factors as well. The final report is not limited in scope or detail, but should at a minimum discuss:

- 46 CFR § 140 Subpart D- Crew Safety
- 46 CFR § 140 Subpart E- Safety and Health
- 46 CFR § 140 Subpart F- Vessel Operational Safety

- IV. TIMING AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
- V. ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE TASK
- VI. COAST GUARD TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE
- VII. NTSAC CONTACT

VIII. ENCLOSURES

<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Prevention-Policy-CG-5P/Traveling-Inspector-Staff-CG-5P-TI/Towing-Vessel-National-Center-of-Expertise/Training/>